



Minutes

Bicycle & Trails Advisory Committee

REGULAR MEETING

MARCH 13, 2003

PRESENT: Eltgroth, Gardner, Rothert, Hubbell, Cheu, McCann

ABSENT: Kinkade, Parks and Recreation Commissioner Mark Frederick

STAFF: Public Works Senior Engineer Julie Behzad
Public Work Deputy Director Karl Bjarke

CALL TO ORDER: Chairperson Eltgroth called the meeting to order at 6:15pm

DECLARATION - POSTING OF AGENDA: Julie Behzad certified that this meeting's agenda was duly noticed and posted in accordance with Government Code Section 54954.2.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Julie Behzad opened the meeting to public comments. There being no comments, the public comments period was closed.

MINUTES: By unanimous vote, the minutes for the February 13, 2003 meeting were approved.

ORAL REPORTS:

1. Staff Report

Bicycle Ordinance

Staff reported that the Bicycle Ordinance was presented at the last City Council Meeting. Council passed this item with some discussion regarding issues which weren't addressed by this ordinance. Karl Bjarke and Bob Elgroth were present at the Council meeting to address any questions or clarifications. Mr. Eltgroth mentioned that the main discussion was on Section 4 of the ordinance which doesn't allow any person riding skateboards, scooters or similar devices to go on any roadway, street, or commercial areas in the city. Ms. Behzad stated that this ordinance

shall be taken back and reviewed by PRC for their comments and input. Ms. Behzad said that she would work with Julie Spier to prepare the staff report to be presented to PRC in the next couple months.

*** Striping at Dunne & Monterey**

Ms. Behzad reported that the re-striping of Dunne & Monterey was completed and thanked Mr. Bjarke for his effort and coordination. It was also noted that the future upcoming striping project will comply with the City's Bikeways Master Plan.

*** Status of the BTAC member applicants**

Ms. Behzad reported that BTAC has a new member. Christopher Hauge was appointed as a new BTAC member by PRC in their last meeting. Ms. Behzad also noted that Mr. Hauge was notified of the appointment and was invited to the meeting. Ms. Behzad also mentioned that she just received Mr. Eltgroth's application which will go to PRC for appointment. With losing Mr. Rothert, Ms. Gardner and Mr. Kinkade, BTAC will still have two vacancies. Mr. Eltgroth mentioned that he had a discussion with Mayor Kennedy and expressed the concern that BTAC has difficulty recruiting new members. Mr. Eltgroth also mentioned that Trails and Pedestrians should also be added or considered as a subcommittee in order for the City to be considered for any future grants. Mr. Eltgroth stated that Mayor Kennedy said that he would check with the potential interested individual to see if they considered applying to serve on the BTAC committee.

*** Fiscal Year 2002/2003 Safe Routes to School Program (SR2S)**

Ms. Behzad reported that this item was requested to be brought back to the Committee for their review by Mr. Hubbell. Ms. Behzad also mentioned that she asked one of the staff to contact the Transportation Department to find out what the City could have done to make their package more attractive. The City's grant application was rated "Good" by Caltrans. They suggested that the City can re-work the proposed trail amp and show how the neighborhood would benefit from the new trail. There is a new revised application for the next cycle which has an additional section "Demonstrated Coordination of Related Activities". The next applications are due in May. Mr. Hubbell mentioned that there is a link on the League of American Bicycle Society's webpage which has information on the SR25 program and suggestions for enhancing applications. Mr. Eltgroth mentioned that the members have had difficulty in the past getting any cooperation from the School District to help with these applications and grants.

Mr. Bjarke also thanked the outgoing members for their time and efforts while serving on the BTAC Committee.

2. Bicycle Resource Directory

Ms. Gardner did not have any thing to report on this item. She did ask if the funding for this project runs out, and Ms. Behzad advised the committee that any funds not expended by the end of the fiscal year, June 30th, need to be rebudgeted.

3. Bike to Work Day / Bike to Work Week

Ms. Gardner reported that she has been talking to VTA, SamTrans and the City of Morgan Hill. Ms. Gardner finally received the information that she should be talking to VTA. She now has a contact name and phone number at VTA. There was also some discussion that the parking lot in jointly owned by VTA and the City of Morgan Hill. Ms. Gardner is now talking to VTA to get the information to give back to Jack Dilles, Risk Manager to obtain a Certificate of Insurance to submit to VTA in order to get their permit.

Mr. Eltgroth also mentioned that there are some workshops coming up which he forwarded the e-mails to the members.

4. Bicycle Friendly Communities Campaign Application

Ms. Gardner reported that she completed the application and mailed the application by March 1st. Mr. Hubbell asked when they'll be notified of the decision. Ms. Gardner stated that she didn't know. Ms. Behzad is the contact and she will be notified.

5. Countywide Bicycle Advisory Committee Update

- Most of the discussions dealt with Bike to Work Week or Bike to Work Day.
- VTA's project reviews were mostly in south San Jose. Mr. Eltgroth noted that past practice for the VTA's efforts for traffic mitigation was to suggest building more roads. Now, they advocate using alternatives, such as change the usage, ie, to "mixed use". One of Morgan Hill's projects, the old Issacson Grainary on Main & Depot, is recommended by VTA to be a mixed use area.
- VTA's pending bankruptcy – Sunnyvale is pulling all of their projects that have Tier 1 funding. The advice given was that we also be cautious if we are using any of those funds.
- VTA SR1 Signage Guidelines – Some of the signages aren't standard and those cities who are ready to put the signs in need to ask the California Transportation Board to give assistance in getting the signage in.
- Congestion Management Report – Things are getting better, we are down to the 1995 levels of traffic.
- VTA & MTC included, for the first time, bicycles and pedestrians in their study,

including about 10 intersections. One intersection had 500 pedestrians. Most of the bike paths have their heaviest use during commute hours, there was only one (Los Gatos Blvd & Blossom Hill) that had a heavier bike use at noontime.

BUSINESS

1. Appointment of Chair and Selection of Vice-Chair

Per the City's guidelines, Vice Chair will be moved to Chair and the member with the most seniority will be moved to Vice Chair. Mark Hubbell was chosen and accepted the position as the new Chair and Steve Cheu was nominated and accepted the position of the new Vice-chair. This will be for the next two years.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- LABLCI Training is the 1st weekend in April
- Wildflower Ride is March 29th

REQUESTS FOR FUTURE ITEMS

(This is the opportunity for any committee member to have an item placed on a future agenda.)

- Police Department concerns regarding motorized scooters, helmets, and segways as they relate to the proposed bicycle ordinance changes- This item will be included in the item to be reviewed by PRC.
- Bicycle Safety Plan – Police Department Attendance at BTAC meetings
- Change the BTAC meeting night
- Cochrane Connection to Coyote Creek Trail

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm. The next meeting will be held on April 10, 2003 at 6:15pm.